

In the name of Allah, the Inherently Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

Joint Statement Regarding COVID19 Pandemic

North Texas Islamic Council

North Texas Imam Council

American Muslim Women Physicians Association

Assoc of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America, Dallas

Muslim Medical Alliance, Dallas

April 30, 2020

The effect of COVID19 pandemic in North Texas has shown us that the infection has a greater potential for harm than the seasonal flu and poses a significant threat to adults of all ages.

The most common symptoms of those infected include: a persistent cough, a high fever, a low-grade temperature, difficulty breathing, body aches, loss of taste, loss of smell.

The highest risk for death is in the elderly and immunocompromised although the disease has also caused hundreds of fatalities in young adults.

It is unclear what percentage of people may carry the virus and remain asymptomatic. These individuals may still be vectors of transmission that harm other community members.

Currently the only scientifically proven method of defeating this public health crisis is avoidance of contact with those infected.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said on April 28th 2020 that Dallas county has not met two most important milestones health care experts have recommended before opening up our economy in North Texas; 1) number of confirmed COVID19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths have not declined for two consecutive weeks, 2) there is not enough testing in the state of Texas to identify new hotspots¹.

Based on the above information, it is our current recommendation that all DFW Islamic institutions do the following till **May 31st 2020**.

1. Continue to suspend all services, functions, and events in which their members or attendees could gather and facilitate viral spread
2. Consider screening in-office employees for symptoms daily, offer complementary work-from-home options for those that qualify, and consider having their employees utilize masks to impede potential respiratory spread
3. Implement regular infection control measures such as disinfection of commonly used surfaces like door handles

It is our hope and prayer that Allah relieve us of this pandemic disease and allow us to enjoy our Islamic institutions to their full capacity once again!